of Doordarshan if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the posts of lighting assistants are being abolished if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) A statement showing different categories of posts sanctioned for Doordarshan and categories to which the avenues of promotion are available is enclosed as Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLII, Annexure No. 31].

(b) No, Sir. Sound Recordists/Engineering Assistants are deployed with Cameraman for Sound coverages.

(c) Yes, Sir. Forty-two posts of Lighting Assistants have been abolished keeping in view the changing needs of the service due to development in technology.

Depreciation in the value of the rupee

649. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the percentage of erosion in the rupee value against the currencies of the major industrial countries and the neighbouring Asian countries, country-wise, during the last three years;

(b) what were the reasons for the continued depreciation of the Indian rupee;

(c) by what percentage, with the continued depreciation of the Indian rupee, there was a rise in the payments on account of trade with the rupee-payment countries; and

(d) what masures have been taken by Governement to stabilize the rupee value in the international market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT) : (a) The rupee exchange rates *vis-a-vis* currencies major industrial) countries as well as currencies of the Asian neighbours on March 31, 1984 and March 31, 1987, and percentage changes in the rupee value in relation to these currencies during the last three years were as indicated in the table below:

Rupee exchange rates vis-a-vis *Major Industrial countries and the Neighbouring Asian countries*

(*Rs. per Unit of Foreign Currency*)

Currencies	As on 31-3-87	As on 31-3-84	%APP (+)/DEP (—) of rupee as on 31-3-87 over 31-3-1984
1	2	3	4
U.S. Dollar	12.8882	10.7315	—16.73
Pound Sterling	20.75	15.55	—25.06

1	2	3	4
Yen	0.0881	0.0480	−45.52
Deutsche Mark	7.1433	4.1505	−41.90
Swiss Franc	6.3237	5.0040	−20.87
Pakistani Rupee	0.7477	0.7995	+ 6.93
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.4496	0.4278	−4.85
Bangladeshi Taka	0.4235	0.4304	+ 1.63
Afghani	0.2092	0.1571	−24.90
Nepalese Rupee	0.5885	0.6844	+16.30
Burmese Kyat	2.0182	1.3325	−33.98

(b) to (d) The exchange rate of the rupee is fixed with reference to the value of a basket of currencies, mainly of countries which are India's major trading partners. The exchange rates between the rupee and other currencies move upward or downward depending upon the fluctuations in the value of these currencies. In a regime of floating exchange rates, it is neither possible nor appropriate to make a forecast of any loss or gain to the country from trade/financial transactions.

Luring of army recruits by the Punjab extremists

650. SHRI J. P. GOYAL :
SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the move by the Punjab extremists to lure army recruits into taking up terrorist missions in that State; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to check infiltration of extremists and terrorists into the armed forces and to thwart their nefarious designs which have dangerous implications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the danger of infiltration of extremists into the Armed Forces and have taken necessary measures to prevent it.

New training programme at the IMA

651. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced special training programme at the IMA for the officers and other ranks in the army, regarding the defensive aspects of a nuclear war in the context of the Pakistani threat; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's plans to further develop this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The theoretical aspects of nuclear explosion